

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 9747

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KS KE

SUBJECT: KOREA QUESTION IN 30TH UNGA: KENYA POSITION

REF: A. NAIROBI 9610 B. USUN 5647

1. IN MEETING WITH VICE-PRESIDENT ARAP MOI TODAY, I
THANKED HIM FOR HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION AND EFFORTS
REGARDING KOREAN ISSUE, ADDING OUR DISAPPOINTMENT - IN
VIEW OF WHAT HE HAD TOLD ME - THAT KENYA HAD ABSTAINED.
MOI STATED CANDIDLY THAT "WE ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH
WAIYAKI," ADDING THAT PERHAPS HE HAD "PROMISED THE NORTH
KOREANS SOMETHING."

2. I REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF KOREAN VOTE TO US, WITH
NUT-SHELL REVIEW OF WHY ISSUE IMPORTANT. MOI SAID HE
AND ATTORNEY GENERAL NJONJO WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY TO GET
FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI TO CHANGE VOTE IN FAVOR US
RESOLUTION. MOI AWARE VOTE MAY TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK. I
PROVIDED MOI WITH LIST OF COUNTRIES VOTING FOR US
RESOLUTION, AS WELL AS "INFORMALLY" GIVING HIM A COPY
OF LETTER HAND-DELIVERED TO WAIYAKI YESTERDAY, NOV 6.
I NOTED THAT WAIYAKI HAD TOLD ME THAT HE, WAIYAKI, WAS
GOING TO TRY TO PERSUADE PRESIDENT KENYATTA TO VOTE FOR
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US SPONSORED RES, WHICH DID NOT FIT WITH WHAT MOI HAD

TOLD ME. I ADDED THAT I HAD SPECIFICALLY NOT INCLUDED THIS IN LETTER TO WAIYAKI (TEXT BELOW) AS IT WOULD ONLY TEND TO PUT HIM ON THE SPOT. MOI REGISTERED ON THE POINT AND STATED HE WOULD INFORM ME OF WHAT STEPS HE HAD TAKEN WITH WHAT RESULTS.

3. VICE-PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON WAIYAKI MAY BE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING KENYATTA'S CURRENT UNYIELDING ATTITUDE (REPORTED REF A), WHICH WE FOUND AS MYSTIFYING AS DID USUN (REF B). KENYATTA'S EARLIER DECISION TO SUPPORT US IN FIRST COMMITTEE WAS CONFIRMED TO DCM ON NOV 6 BY DEFENSE MINISTRY PERMSEC WHO ATTENDED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PRIOR TO VOTE. ON THAT OCCASION, KENYATTA REPORTEDLY SAID KENYA SHOULD NOT APPEAR TO BE AGAINST ANYBODY, BUT IT SHOULD SHOW ITSELF ON THE SIDE OF ITS FRIENDS. WAIYAKI WAS NOT PRESENT AT THIS MEETING, AND DESPITE FACT THAT BOTH DEFENSE PERMSEC AND VICE-PRESIDENT CONVEYED KENYATTA'S VIEWS TO FOREIGN MINISTRY, WAIYAKI EVIDENTLY CHOSE TO IGNORE THEM BECAUSE HE HAD NOT RECEIVED DIRECT FROM PRESIDENT. FOLLOWING THE VOTE, WE SPECULATE THAT WAIYAKI EXPLAINED HIS ACTIONS TO KENYATTA IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PORTRAY OUR SIDE AS ARM-TWISTERS (ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO DIRECT EVIDENCE FOR THIS). MOREOVER, WE HAVE BEEN RELIABLY INFORMED THAT WAIYAKI IS NOW SAYING THAT HE TOLD SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR FROM OUTSET THAT KENYA WOULD ABSTAIN, AND THAT U.S. EMBASSY IS SATISFIED WITH OUTCOME OF VOTE -- BOTH PATENTLY UNTRUE STATEMENTS.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MY NOV 7 LETTER TO WAIYAKI:

"DEAR MR MINISTER:

I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF WRITING ONCE MORE ON THE QUESTION OF THE TWO UN RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING KOREA. AS YOU KNOW, THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE APPROVED BOTH THE RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY THE U.S. AND SOME 30 OTHERS AS WELL AS THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. THE TWO RESOLUTIONS WILL SOON BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BARRING
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UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS.

MY GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO ATTACH THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE OUTCOME OF THE KOREA VOTE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY STRONG HOPE THAT KENYA MIGHT CONSIDER CHANGING ITS VOTE ON OUR RESOLUTION FROM "ABSTAIN" TO "YES". I RECALL IN OUR EARLIER DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION YOUR KEEN INTEREST IN HOW OTHER AFRICAN

STATES WOULD VOTE, AND IN THIS CONNECTION I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT TEN AFRICAN COUNTRIES VOTED FOR OUR RESOLUTION IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE. I AM ENCLOSING A TABULATION OF THIS VOTE, WITH OAU MEMBERS VOTING IN OUR FAVOR UNDERSCORED.

KENYA'S DECISION ON THIS ISSUE MUST, OF COURSE, BE REACHED AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL FACTORS IN THE LIGHT OF KENYA'S OWN INTERESTS. AT THE SAME TIME, I WOULD BE REMISS IN MY DUTY IF I FAILED TO ALERT YOUR GOVERNMENT TO THE HIGH PRIORITY ACCORDED TO THIS MATTER BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. I APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING AN INTEREST IN THIS QUESTION, AND REMAIN HOPEFUL OF KENYA'S SUPPORT IN THE FINAL VOTE."

MARSHALL

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